



## National Weather Service, Blacksburg, VA

### National Weather Service Blacksburg, VA Radar Outage in mid-February for Major Upgrade

Beginning on February 11, 2021, the KFCX WSR-88D radar operated by the NOAA National Weather Service in Blacksburg, VA and located near Copper Hill, VA will be down for approximately six to eight days for the replacement of the generator, fuel tanks, and accompanying components. This activity is important to support the radar's operation during periods of commercial power outages, especially when hazardous weather is present.

This generator update is the fifth major project of the NEXRAD Service Life Extension Program, a series of upgrades and replacements that will keep our nation's radars viable into the 2030s. NOAA National Weather Service, the United States Air Force, and the Federal Aviation Administration are investing \$150 million in the seven-year program. The first project was the installation of the new signal processor and the second project was the transmitter refurbishment. The two remaining projects are the refurbishment of the pedestal and equipment shelters. The Service Life Extension Program is scheduled to be completed in 2023.

During the downtime, adjacent radars include: Charleston, WV (KRLX), Baltimore/Washington (KLWX), Wakefield, VA (KAKQ), Raleigh, NC (KRAX), Greenville-Spartanburg, SC (KGSP), Morristown, TN (KMRX), and Jackson, KY (KJKL). For direct access to any of these surrounding radar sites, go to the following web page: [radar.weather.gov](https://radar.weather.gov). If this site is not working, an alternate radar page can be found at [aviationweather.gov/radar](https://aviationweather.gov/radar).

The KFCX WSR-88D is part of a network of 159 operational radars. The Radar Operations Center in Norman, Oklahoma, provides lifecycle management and support for all WSR-88Ds.

The National Weather Service in Blacksburg, VA can be found online and on social media:

Web - [weather.gov/Blacksburg](https://weather.gov/Blacksburg)

Facebook - [facebook.com/NWSBlacksburg](https://facebook.com/NWSBlacksburg)

Twitter - [twitter.com/NWSBlacksburg](https://twitter.com/NWSBlacksburg)

